

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 142

By Rich

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Grand Junction,
Tennessee, home of the Bird Dog and Field Trial
National Championship.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are honored to recognize those of
Tennessee's cities and towns which have gained worldwide renown; and

WHEREAS, Grand Junction, Tennessee, is one such community which has stood as the
center of the sport of bird dog and field trial competitions for more than a century with many avid
outdoorsmen and bird dog enthusiasts calling it the "Bird Dog and Field Trial Capital of the
World"; and

WHEREAS, West Tennessee has long been hallowed ground to those who hunt quail
and waterfowl, and the necessity of good bird dogs, pointers, and retrievers soon gave rise to
good-natured competition; and

WHEREAS, the first field trial was held outside of Grand Junction in 1874, and the
National Field Trial Championship Association was organized by sportsmen from West
Tennessee soon thereafter; and

WHEREAS, the winner of the first field trial was an English Setter named Count
Gladstone IV, who was handled by James M. Avent of Avent Kennels, located just outside of
Grand Junction; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Avent went on to handle eight National Championship winners, a feat
matched only by Ches Harris and exceeded by Clyde Morton, who won eleven national titles;
and

WHEREAS, it was in 1915 that the National Championship was relocated, permanently,
to the Ames Plantation in Grand Junction. The Ames Plantation was twenty thousand acres of
land purchased by renowned hunting enthusiast Hobart Ames, who stood for thirty years as the

president of the National Field Trial Association and established the standards for judging the competitions, standards now known as the Amesian Standard; and

WHEREAS, Grand Junction is also where the Bird Dog Federation chose to locate the National Bird Dog Museum, which also contains the Field Trial Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Grand Junction is the heart and home of the bird dog and field trial community, and it is wholly fitting that this body recognizes its preeminent place in national bird dog and field trial history; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby join with bird dog and field trial enthusiasts everywhere in honoring Grand Junction for its unrivaled contributions to the sport of Bird Dog and Field Trials and as the storied home of the Bird Dog and Field Trial National Championship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.